

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 15, 2010

SENATE BILL

No. 964

**Introduced by Senator Alquist
(Principal coauthor: Senator Steinberg)
(Coauthors: Senators Ducheny and Leno)**

February 5, 2010

An act to add Section 185039 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to workforce training, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 964, as amended, Alquist. Workforce development program: high-speed rail.

Existing law, the California High-Speed Train Act, creates the High-Speed Rail Authority to develop and implement a high-speed train system in the state, with specified powers and duties. Existing law, the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century, provides for the issuance of \$9.95 billion in general obligation bonds for high-speed rail and related purposes.

This bill would require the authority to contract with the ~~California Community Colleges Chancellor's office~~ *Employment Development Department* to develop a labor market assessment of the workforce and identify the education and skills needed for ~~high-speed rail, and to develop a comprehensive workforce training and certification program or programs to facilitate the availability of that workforce~~ *construction, operation, and maintenance of the high-speed train system*. The bill would require the authority and the ~~chancellor's office~~ *department* to form a ~~Jobs Advisory Task Force~~ *an advisory committee*, as specified, to advise the authority and the ~~chancellor's office~~ *department* on the ~~establishment and operation of training and certification programs~~.

~~required to produce an adequate skilled workforce for this project~~
availability of skilled labor relative to the high-speed train project and
on options for workforce training programs in that regard. The bill
would require the labor market assessment to be *submitted to the*
Legislature and incorporated into the authority's biennial revised
business plan.

This bill would appropriate ~~\$25,000,000~~ \$500,000 from the
High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Fund to the authority for these
purposes. The bill would also make related legislative findings and
declarations.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:
3 (a) The construction of the 800-mile high-speed train system in
4 California is estimated to be a 10-year construction project
5 providing approximately 600,000 construction jobs and 450,000
6 permanent jobs for the California economy.
7 (b) Constructing, ~~implementing~~ *maintaining*, and operating
8 ~~high-speed rail~~ *a high-speed train system* will require a large
9 traditional labor pool and many unique skill sets not typical in a
10 more conventional transportation construction project. To fully
11 construct ~~high-speed rail~~ *a high-speed train system* using California
12 labor, there is a need for skilled and trained ~~engineers in many~~
13 ~~disciplines, construction workers, electricians, train system service~~
14 ~~and control system operators~~ *individuals in the fields of engineering*
15 *and electrical power systems, materials experts, control system*
16 *and computer system technicians*, and specialized maintenance
17 workers, among others. To ensure the availability of these labor
18 skills and resources *needed for construction of the high-speed train*
19 *system* and to maximize the extent of California labor force
20 participation in the completion of the high-speed train ~~project~~
21 ~~system~~, it is crucial that the state immediately begin the actions
22 necessary to achieve these resource goals and requirements.
23 (c) As a critical first step, it is important for the state to have a
24 full assessment of the labor needs to ~~develop~~ *plan for* this
25 transportation “mega project,” and to provide the necessary training

1 and educational opportunities so that Californians, to the greatest
2 extent possible, may participate in, and benefit from, this historic
3 and transformative public works project.

4 (d) As part of its responsibilities and function to plan for the
5 development and implementation of a high-speed rail *train* system
6 in California, it is essential that the High-Speed Rail Authority
7 work collaboratively with the state's *Employment Development*
8 *Department*, the University of California, California State
9 University, California Community Colleges, the California
10 Workforce Investment Board, the California Department of
11 Education, and labor representatives and related organizations with
12 expertise in trade apprenticeship programs, to assess the labor
13 needs and ~~provide recommend actions to ensure~~ adequate
14 workforce training *is available* for the construction, operation, and
15 maintenance of a high-speed rail *train* system in this state.

16 (e) The Legislature finds and declares that it is ~~necessary~~
17 *appropriate* to utilize funds from Proposition 1A of 2008, the Safe,
18 Reliable, High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st
19 Century (Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 2704) of Division
20 3 of the Streets and Highways Code), ~~to properly plan for the~~
21 ~~development of the high-speed rail network, the largest public~~
22 ~~works project undertaken in this state, and to ensure the availability~~
23 ~~of a sufficient labor pool and expertise to effectively and~~
24 ~~expeditiously complete the project. for the purposes set forth in~~
25 *Section 185039 of the Public Utilities Code, as added by this act.*

26 SEC. 2. Section 185039 is added to the Public Utilities Code,
27 to read:

28 185039. (a) Pursuant to its duty to plan for the development
29 of a high-speed rail ~~network~~ *train system* in California, the
30 authority shall contract with the ~~California Community Colleges~~
31 ~~Chancellor's office to (1) develop a labor market assessment of~~
32 ~~the workforce and identify the education and skills needed to~~
33 ~~construct, operate, and maintain a high-speed rail network in~~
34 ~~California; and (2) develop a comprehensive workforce training~~
35 ~~and certification program or programs to facilitate the availability~~
36 ~~of a skilled, in-state workforce to participate, to the maximum~~
37 ~~extent feasible, in the construction, operation, and maintenance of~~
38 ~~the high-speed rail network. Employment Development Department~~
39 *to collaboratively develop a labor market assessment of the*
40 *workforce and identify the education and skills needed to (1)*

1 *construct the high-speed train system authorized for bond funding*
2 *under the Safe, Reliable, High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act*
3 *for the 21st Century (Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 2704)*
4 *of Division 3 of the Streets and Highways Code) and (2) operate*
5 *and maintain the high-speed train system, as necessary to aid the*
6 *authority in planning the construction of the high-speed train*
7 *system. The assessment shall include a recommended strategy to*
8 *ensure workforce training programs are available to facilitate the*
9 *availability of a skilled, in-state workforce to participate, to the*
10 *maximum extent feasible, in the construction of the high-speed*
11 *train system.*

12 (b) To achieve the objectives described in subdivision (a), the
13 authority and the ~~California Community Colleges Chancellor's~~
14 ~~office shall form a Jobs Advisory Task Force to advise the two~~
15 ~~agencies on the availability of skilled labor, by region, necessary~~
16 ~~to perform the tasks associated with building, operating, and~~
17 ~~maintaining a high-speed rail system. In addition, the task force~~
18 ~~shall participate and advise the agencies on the establishment and~~
19 ~~operation of training and certification programs required to produce~~
20 ~~an adequate skilled workforce for this project. Employment~~
21 ~~Development Department shall establish an advisory committee~~
22 ~~to advise both agencies on the availability and potential availability~~
23 ~~of skilled labor, by region, necessary to (1) construct the~~
24 ~~high-speed train system and (2) operate and maintain the~~
25 ~~high-speed train system, as necessary to aid the authority in~~
26 ~~planning the construction of the high-speed train system. In~~
27 ~~addition, the advisory committee shall advise both agencies on~~
28 ~~workforce training programs and funding options available, or~~
29 ~~proposed to be available, to ensure a qualified skilled workforce~~
30 ~~in California may participate in the construction of the high-speed~~
31 ~~train system.~~

32 (c) (1) Members of the ~~Jobs Advisory Task Force~~ advisory
33 committee established pursuant to subdivision (b) shall include,
34 but not be limited to, representatives from the following
35 organizations:

36 ~~(1) The High-Speed Rail Authority.~~

37 ~~(A) The authority.~~

38 ~~(2)~~

1 (B) The state's higher education institutions, including the
2 University of California, the California State University system,
3 and the California Community College Chancellor's office.

4 ~~(3)~~

5 (C) The California Workforce Investment Board.

6 ~~(4) The California~~

7 (D) *The State* Department of Education.

8 ~~(5)~~

9 (E) Labor organizations with expertise in operating
10 apprenticeship programs for the skills necessary to build, operate,
11 and maintain a high-speed-rail *train* system.

12 ~~(6) The State~~

13 (F) *The* Employment Training Panel.

14 (2) *The authority may include parties in addition to those*
15 *identified in paragraph (1) as members of the advisory committee.*

16 (d) The assessment and ~~certification and training programs~~
17 *recommendations* developed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall
18 consider the short-term and long-term labor needs for the project,
19 including the need for specific skills in specific regions of the state.

20 (e) *The assessment produced pursuant to subdivision (a) shall*
21 *be submitted to the fiscal committees and the policy committees*
22 *of the Legislature with jurisdiction over transportation and labor*
23 *matters by January 1, 2012. The assessment shall be submitted in*
24 *compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code. This*
25 *subdivision shall become inoperative on January 1, 2016, pursuant*
26 *to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.*

27 ~~(e)~~

28 (f) The assessment produced pursuant to subdivision (a) shall
29 be incorporated in the authority's biennial revised business plan
30 and submitted to the Legislature for its review pursuant to Section
31 185033.

32 ~~(f)~~

33 (g) The sum of ~~twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000)~~ *five*
34 *hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000)* is hereby appropriated from
35 the High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Fund to the authority for
36 purposes of this section.

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